(b) The Hindustan Latex Limited had sent a proposal to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 9.9.1991 for improving the quality of condoms and promotional activities. The proposal is for an outlay of Rs. 2241 lakhs as per details below:

		Rs. in lakhs
1.	Purchase of equipment for improving quality assurance system	806
2.	Research Studies	35
3.	IEC	525
4.	Installation of 10,000 Vending Machines	875
		2241

(c) A comprehensive project proposal for prevention and control of AIDS is under consideration with the World Bank. The project *inter alia*, includes measures for upgradation of the quality of condoms which would cover some of the activities mentioned HLL in their proposal mentioned above.

New Tourism Routes

*279. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have declared some routes as tourism routes for developing them in connection with the Visit India Year;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the routes from Kerala;

(c) whether Kovalam has been included in these routes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As part of the programme for India Tourism Year, 1991, eighteen new circuits were identified in consultation with State Governments and industry to strengthen infrastructural facilities. These are extensions of established circuits. Four places in Kerala are covered in these circuits.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Kovalam is already on an established travel circuit.

National Conference on Panchayati Raj and Women

*280. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when and where the last "National Conference on Panchayati Raj and Women" was held;

(b) the main features of the decisions taken therein;

(c) the details of follow-up action taken

on proposed to be taken thereon; and

(d) the efforts made to prescribed a certain number of quota for women in Panchayats, Planning Boards etc?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The National Conference on Panchayati Raj and Women was held on 3-4 May, 1989 in New Delhi.

(b) to (d). The general consensus was towards reservation for women in various for a like Panchayati Raj Institutions, Zila Parishads Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayats. The Ministry of Rural Development has already introduced the Constitution (Seventy-Second Amendment) Bill, 1991 in the Lok Sabha on 16.9.91 on reservation in Panchayats including reservation for women.

[*Translation*]

Railway Protection Force

*281. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to moot any plan to make the Railway Protection Force more effective to enhance security on the Railways; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Various measures are being taken from time to time to modernise the Force and to make it more efficient by equipping it with modern equipments, vehicles, arms and ammunition and training aids.

[*English*]

Drive Against Quack Doctors

*282. SHRI N. DENNIS:
DR. (SMT.) PADMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Union Government to check quack doctors, State-wise;

(b) whether the All India Medical Council has been consulted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c). Penal Provisions already exist in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956; in the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970; and in the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to the effect that no person other than a medical practitioner enrolled on the State Medical Register shall practise medicine in any State and any person contravening this provision shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000 or both.

The Government of India have advised the State Governments/Union Territories to invoke the penal provisions to check practice by unqualified practitioners.

Medical Council of India is strongly opposed to the extension of any recognition to unqualified practitioners on the ground that it would encourage quackery.

Alleged Malpractice in ITDC Duty Free Shops

*283. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: